

December 13, 2005

To: Forum Participants

From: Nancy Floreen

Subject: Follow-up and Next Steps

Only in Montgomery County are we lucky enough to have so many well informed, involved residents. Last Saturday you were joined by over 150 others from every part of the County--citizen activists, land use professionals, nine current or past Planning Board Members, and seven current or past Council Members, and an outstanding panel of experts on all sides of the County planning debate. I hope that you found the panel discussion and the audience comments useful and instructive. Clearly there are folks who have been working on these issues for many decades, and we have a wealth of experience to draw upon as we address the future of County planning and the growing awareness that there needs to be a high level of accountability at all levels. I was also happy to meet so many new and active residents ready to participate in this important discussion.

Attached is a summary document that I hope captures the ideas and comments generated at the Forum. I encourage you to distribute it to your neighbors, associates and organizational affiliations. In addition, I believe that we can and must do a better job of notifying residents--at the earliest possible time--of the dates of hearings and discussions at the Planning Board and Council. Beginning the first of the year I will be sending you on a regular basis "**Heads Up**"-- a list of important dates of hearings, committee work sessions and scheduled votes on matters relating to land use, growth and planning in the County. This is intended to supplement the weekly agendas you may now be receiving.

Here are some important dates coming up in January that you should note:

Countywide:

- Zoning Text Amendments moving the enforcement of Site Plans to the Department of Permitting Services (ZTA 05-17, 05-18, 05-20 and SRA 05-04, and Bill 35-05) Council Public Hearing January 17, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
- Zoning Text Amendments relating to Site Plan approvals at the Planning Board (ZTA 05-20) Council Public Hearing January 17, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
- Zoning Text Amendment providing for use of a Hearing Examiner by the Planning Board, Council Public Hearing January 17, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
- Zoning Text Amendments on Site Plan and Enforcement (subject of the January 17th public hearing) Phed Committee work session, January 30, 2006, 9:30 a.m
- Sign Ordinance - Limited Duration Signs (includes political signs)(ZTA 05-14), Final Council action January 17, 2006.
- Workforce Housing (ZTA 05-16) Phed Committee work session, January 19, 2006, 9:15 a.m.
- Stormwater Drainage and Runoff (Bill 26-05) T&E Committee work session, January 19, 2006, 2:00 p.m.

Clarksburg related issues:

- Zoning Text Amendments relating to Site Plans and Site Plan Enforcement (See above under Countywide)
- Clarksburg Roads status report to the T&E Committee, January 26, 2006, 2:00 p.m.

Shady Grove Area:

- Shady Grove Sector Plan, final Council vote January 17, 2006.
- Resolution to establish a Transportation Management District in Greater Shady Grove. T&E Committee, January 19, 2006, 2:00 p.m.

Bethesda Area:

- Woodmont Triangle Amendment to the Bethesda Sector Plan, final Council vote January 17, 2006.
- Transit Station Zones (ZTA 05-22), Council Hearing January 24, 2006, 1:30 p.m.

Agricultural Area:

- Sewer system Public Hearing on Multi-Use On-Site Systems in the Agricultural Zone (RDT), Committee Hearing (T&E) January 19, 2006.
- TDR Easement - Nonresidential Uses (ZTA 05-23), Council Hearing January 19, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Damascus:

- Damascus Master Plan, Public Hearing January 24, 2006, 7:30 p.m.

Additional information about any of these items is available on the County Council website: www.montgomerycountymd.gov.